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# BACTERIOLOGICAL REVIEWS

## AIMS AND SCOPE

*Bacteriological Reviews* is published under the auspices of the American Society for Microbiology to provide authoritative critical surveys on the current status of subjects and problems in the diverse fields of microbiology and cognate disciplines, such as immunology and genetics. This scope includes the occasional short monograph, incorporating and summing original investigations of such breadth and significance that they would lose cogency if published as a series of research papers. *Bacteriological Reviews* provides opportunity for the expert to interpret his special knowledge for the benefit of the main body of microbiologists. Both established workers and students just beginning research perforce depend increasingly on compendia for knowledge of progress outside the scope of their training and research interests.

A rational, balanced, interpretive development of the topic is preferred to a chronological treatment. Old history, if any, usually can be covered simply by reference to earlier reviews. A mere compilation or annotated bibliography does not adequately serve the objectives of this journal. Judicious selection of references is an important function of the reviewer and should constitute the first step in composition of a review. Personal views of authors may be presented as perspectives or test hypotheses. Suggestions of topics and potential reviewers are invited, even if the correspondent does not consider the preparation of a review himself.

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Erwin Neter  
State University of New York at Buffalo and Children's Hospital  
219 Bryant Street  
Buffalo 22, New York

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